



# Arizona Department of Agriculture

## *MEDIA ADVISORY, FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

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### **New Program Helps Ranchers with Conservation**

#### *Arizona Livestock and Crop Grant Conservation Program Helping Ranchers Protect Arizona's Wild Lands*

(Phoenix) – In the midst of record home growth in the Valley and around the State, ranchers now have a way to make improvements on their ranch land(s) and not have to sell their private land(s) to developers. The Arizona Department of Agriculture is launching the Livestock and Crop Conservation Grant Program, which will provide millions of dollars to ranchers within the Grand Canyon state.



Consider:

- On average, it is estimated that over an acre per hour of agricultural or non-urban land is converted to urban uses.
- More than **\$3.7 million** to be awarded this year alone.
- These funds can be used to match Arizona and federal funds.

Ranchers have until the **May 13, 2005** to present a project proposal and request the funds necessary to complete the program. This is a chance for the ranching community to evaluate what best suits their individual operations and team with the Department to turn those conservation efforts into a reality. Funds will be awarded by June of 2005 and recipients will be notified via mail.

**ADA staff will be conducting grant workshops around the State** to provide potential applicants with a general program overview and information on how to apply for funds. ADA strongly encourages potential applicants to attend a grant workshop. The following is a listing of the locations and dates of the grant workshops. For more detailed information on the exact locations and times of the workshops, please reference page four of the grant manual, or visit the [agency calendar](#).

Benson, AZ	Monday, April 4, 2005
Globe, AZ	Tuesday, April 5, 2005
Show Low, AZ	Wednesday, April 6, 2005
Chino Valley, AZ	Monday, April 11, 2005
Kingman, AZ	Tuesday, April 12, 2005

If you need "faces" or names and numbers of those waiting for such funds or intend to apply, please call the number listed above.

For more information on the program and to download the grant manual and application forms, visit <http://agriculture.state.az.us/Main/LiveCropGrantProgram.htm>.